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12/13/02

**LAMOINE CONSERVATION COMMISSION
TOWN OF LAMOINE
606 DOUGLAS HIGHWAY
LAMOINE, MAINE 04605**

Minutes of the meeting of November 13, 2002.

The Meeting started at 7 p.m.

Commission Members Present: Fred Stocking (Chair), Nancy Pochan, Pat Wallace and new member Raymonde Dumont. New member Susan Wuorinen was out of town.

Others Attending: John Wuorinen, Jo Cooper, Ken Smith, Carol Korty and Beth Boland attended and participated.

Rae Dumont introduced herself and was introduced to the other members of the Commission.

Agenda Review: Fred Stocking reviewed the Agenda and noted the presence of Jo Cooper to help with the Aquaculture item added late to the agenda at the Selectmen's request.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting: The minutes of the September 11, 2002, meeting were reviewed and approved.

Election of Officers: The Chair noted the need to elect a Secretary of the Commission. Fred offered to take on the Secretary's duties if someone else wished to step forward and take on the duties of Chair. No one did. After some discussion, this item was passed over to the next meeting in the hopes that Susan Wuorinen might be willing to be Secretary.

Work Plan: The Chair expressed his desire to make more formal some aspects of the Commission's work. He proposed that when an issue is raised for Commission action that the issue be discussed at each meeting of the Commission to ensure that everyone understood what the Commission is doing on that issue. Further, that when work sessions are held in addition to regular meetings, that those work sessions be scheduled at the regular meeting and posted in the Town Hall to encourage the participation of anyone interested. Finally, that the Commission do formal decision-making on whether to proceed to the action stage, such as ordinance drafting, on issues that it has been exploring. Nancy Pochan expressed the wish that the Commission could get more done, by essentially having each member act as a committee chair on an issue. The Chair ruthlessly crushed dissent and imposed his will.

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As to the specifics of a work plan, the Commission decided:

1. To decide whether or not to move forward to draft a proposed Town Forestry Ordinance after hearing a proposal and full airing of the pro's and cons on at a Commission meeting on January 8, 2003. **Nancy Pochan and Ken Smith agreed to coordinate this discussion.**

2. To hold a Gravel Pit Reclamation working group meeting at 4 p.m. on November 26th. **At least Fred and Carol Korty will attend. Fred will get out a notice of this working session to be posted.**

3. To invite interested people to the Commission's December meeting to discuss whether a Parks and Recreation Ordinance might be useful in Lamoine. **Fred agreed to call Stuart and Lisa Branch. Rae Agreed to review the park ordinances Stu gathered for the Commission's consideration.**

4. In order to open a discussion of what the Commission might usefully do with respect to the increasing development pressure on Lamoine, the Commission will do 15 minutes of preliminary brainstorming on this issue at the December meeting.

5. To explore whether a shellfish ordinance might be in order for the Town, **Fred will call Dave Clifford of East Machias and report back to the Commission in December.**

Reports: Carol Korty reported on her work with Stu at setting up a bookcase at the Town Hall for Commission materials and explained her sorting system. Carol also reported on her attendance at an MDI Watershed Coalition meeting. Rae reported on the habitat preservation meeting held recently. She suggested that we follow up and consider trying to put Lamoine forward as a priority area. He hope would be that we could get the State to collect and make accessible valuable resource information about the Town. **Rae will request the basic information. Ken Smith offered to supplement that with information on the Massachusetts program on which the Maine program is based.** Ken reported from the Town Public Works Committee that any building proposed by that committee will not include gas storage and pumps.

Planning Board Report: Carol reported that the Planning Board had spent a considerable amount of time on the Seal Cove enforcement issue. It is apparently not clear that there is a basis for enforcement action.

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Comments from the public: Beth Boland recounted finding tar coming out from a drain pipe from the subdivision near her home. She tried to clarify what Town entity should hear and respond to a specific complaint involving a potentially dangerous situation. Ken Smith offered the opinion that this was likely the foundation tar being moved due to heavy rainfall, that it therefor might not be a persistent problem and that the tar may not be much of a problem when it dries.

Carol Korty reported on several complaints about cutting near the shore. Fred and Ken reviewed the kind of cutting permitted near the shore. No real limits on trees or shrubs under 3 ½ inches in diameter at breast height.

There were several announcements of upcoming events relating to conservation and the meeting adjourned shortly after 9 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Fred Stocking, Chair
Lamoine Conservation Commission